

June 11, 1965

Memo to: Miss Ferris  
From: Mrs. Campbell

The Humphry-McNiff Survey raises many questions in my mind. Perhaps my recent arrival as a member of the staff accounts for some of this, but I feel that it is contradictory in parts and tends to belabor the obvious. I argue, first of all, with the premise that Wayland has reached a plateau in growth. This may be true if one is thinking of a five year period, but it only stands to reason that the encroaching city is bound to reach out and put pressure on Wayland and its open acres will not be zoned for twenty-acre estates but for medium priced homes using one or two acres as lots. At this very moment, one realtor alone advertises fifty homes under construction.

Knowing that Wayland has faced terrific costs in school building it is logical that a new library building would be unattainable at this time but the campaign should start now to educate the community in its library needs for the future. Complacency could come with remodeling and why should the library always play the role of Cinderella.

The report constantly mentions space for readers and space for books but a library is not just space - it is a realm of ideas. The most successful libraries are those which incorporate in architecture, furnishings and programs a sense of the past, a present vitality and a great awareness of the future. At Wayland, we have a sense of the past in

architecture and an aura of history, but we must stress vitality and an awareness of progress.

I would like to see the entrance to the building revamped so that the present condition of 96% of the borrowers using as an entrance an outdated stairway from the parking lot be changed. Steps should be constructed rising from the parking lot to the front entrance, appropriately landscaped to set the tone of the library. A town, the size of Wayland, has usually one cultural center and that is the library. It is up to the library board to provide an appropriate setting for books and the ideas they represent. The taxpayers are quick to see that a school must have an attractive setting and attractive furnishings to provide a milieu for education. A library is an integral part of that education and, if anything, should be more attractive since it is not mandatory. A good education opens the minds of youngsters and leads directly to self-education at the library.

The report bases much of its remodeling suggestions on the premise that we a high school collection and this puzzles me. The Y books in any library of this size, in my experience, always stands for the junior high level and a transitional room from children's to adult's. The high school students of today are working at the college level of fifteen years ago, so to speak of a

high school collection is to bring forth from the adult collection in one place a group of books that are required on high school lists. In a library of this size the duplication of material would be uncalled for. The survey recommends putting a high school reading area on the left mezzanine. This plan would be completely unfeasible. This plan would demand a separate collection of reference material for that floor since any experienced librarian knows that reference books must be used where they are shelved. This plan would call for a reference librarian to be stationed on that floor whenever it is being used, afternoon and evenings. A library of this size would not have the staff to man a circulation desk, a reference desk on the main floor and a reference desk on that level.

If a new building is out of the question at this time, I would like to see the librarian's office removed from the first floor. One of the mezzanines could be used for a librarian's office and cataloguing room. The main floor should be devoted, in my opinion to fiction, periodicals and reference collection with charging desk appropriately placed so that two members of the staff could comfortably control the whole area. The other mezzanine could be used for non-fiction. The non-fiction collection must grow and a two story addition could be placed to the North. I would like to see the first floor of that addition be children's room, abandoning any more use of the basement area except for storage of per-

and other materials and possibly a lecture room. The entrance to this room would be the present window of the main floor. The second level of the addition would be non-fiction stack area connecting with the mezzanine floor. The present librarian's office could be used for a record listening room, storage of records and a quiet room for a borrower needing to use a typewriter or tape recorder. I do not approve of the workroom being right behind the circulation desk because the survey's method of baffling sound, which is very present in the cataloguing operation with the constant clack of typewriters, would not be adequate. Their ceiling suggestion sounds unworkable for many reasons.

A definite must in remodeling is a staff room. At present the staff has no rest room facilities and not even a comfortable chair in case of a sudden indisposition. A small kitchen unit should be provided in an area with pleasant furnishings with an adjacent rest room. These things were taken for granted twenty-five years ago in most libraries. Wayland has no excuse for not providing them at this date. The basement area could be utilized for this purpose also.

It is my feeling that the Wayland Library with updating of furnishings, new steel stacks and, if possible an addition could provide Wayland with a library of the present.

Fifteen years from now with a vital library as an example or jumping-off point, public support for a dynamic cultural center incorporating the best in library architecture and service should be easy to arouse. Properly educated during the intervening years the citizens may even demand it for themselves.



TOWN OF WAYLAND  
MASSACHUSETTS

NOTICE TO BIDDERS  
BRACKET TYPE BOOKSTACKS

The Library Trustees of the Town of Wayland will receive Proposals at the Wayland Public Library, Wayland, Mass., until 4:00 P.M., E.D.T. Tuesday, August 8, 1967, for furnishing and erecting 14 double face bracket type ranges in the Wayland Free Public Library.

All Proposals shall be submitted in duplicate on forms provided by the Library, and shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope marked with the name of the bidder and description:

"Bracket Type Bookstacks, Proposal, due  
August 8, 1967."

Specifications and Proposal Forms are obtainable at the office of the Librarian, Wayland Free Public Library, Wayland, Mass.

The Library Trustees of Wayland reserve the right to reject any or all Proposals or any part of a Proposal.

TOWN OF WAYLAND  
Library Board of Trustees



## COMPARATIVELY SPEAKING

Circ.	Inc.	Exp.	Exp.	Book	Book	Rel.
Pop.	per	Books	Salaries	Mun.	Per	of
	Cap.			Appr.	Cap.	Book
Nahant						
2,396	7.5	1,96	1,500.00	1,540.00	4,700.00	\$68
Groton						
2,835	5.6	2.96	983.10	2,600.00	2,772.90	.35
Lenox						
2,951	16.5	4.53	1,546.75	5,920.00	350.00	.50
Lancaster						
3,037	4.0	2.11	796.25	4,170.00	3,000.00	.26
Hopedale						
3,317	6.7	1.95	615.34	3,948.00	3,768.56	.18
Wayland						
3,901	6.6	1.57	886.78	2,900.00	5,095.83	.22
E. Bridgewater						
4,008	15.3	2.35	1,279.04	6,100.00	9,438.00	.29
Dalton						
4,367	10.0	1.45	1,199.00	3,370.00	3,500.00	.27
Weston						
4,473	9.8	2.84	2,473.00	6,200.00	10,034.76	.56

